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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تيمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Today's Weather

It will be fair to partly cloudy. Winds will be light and variable. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm seas.

	Overnight	Daytime
Amman	2	14
Aqaba	8	20
Deserts	1	13
Jordan Valley	7	20

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 18. Sunset tonight: 4:32 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 6:30 a.m.

AMMAN, MONDAY DECEMBER 15, 1980 — SAFAR 8, 1401

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Christmas at home for hostages? Don't let on it, Iran says

IRAN, Dec. 14 (Agencies) — A senior Iranian official said today it was possible for 52 American hostages to be released by Christmas if Washington acted quickly to Iran's terms for their release.

Mr. Ahmad Azizi, whose title is director of American hostage affairs in the office of the Iranian prime minister, dismissed as "speculation" press reports in Lebanon and Kuwait that word had been reached under which the captives would be freed Christmas Day.

Damascus today, a government spokesman said Syria "knows" of a Kuwaiti newspaper report that suggested President Ali Assad has intervened with Iran's leaders to ensure the release of the hostages before Christmas.

A newspaper report came as Algerian Foreign Minister Abdelkader Ben Yahya ended two days of meetings in Algiers with Mr. Assad, Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

Mr. Ben Yahya said on arriving in Kuwait today that the Syrian-led boycott of last month's Arab summit in Amman, which he said was a Syrian spokesman, who declined to be identified, dismissed the report in the independent newspaper *Al Watan*. The newspaper reported that "international diplomatic sources in Washington" as saying Assad used his good offices with Tehran at the behest of a "reputable Arab personality" close to U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Assad said, "Agreement has been reached to free the hostages Christmas Day." He said public denials emanating from Tehran that the hostages will be flown within the next few days to Damascus and released "is a lie."

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Her Majesty Queen Noor inspects the flight simulator room at the Queen Noor Civil Aviation Training Institute, where she inaugurated a new building on Sunday.

Ethiopian offensive broken, Eritrean guerrillas report

KHARTOUM, Dec. 14 (AP) — Eritrean rebels claimed today that they broke an offensive by Soviet-backed Ethiopian government forces trying to break through the guerrillas' mountain stronghold.

A spokesman for the Eritrean People's Liberation Front said here that the government offensive, which began Dec. 4 near Afabed, collapsed last Thursday after repeated Ethiopian assaults against EPLF positions.

The EPLF, which is well dug in along a 40-kilometre front in mountains above the government troops, launched a surprise counterattack Thursday behind Ethiopian lines, forcing the withdrawal, said the spokesman, Mr. Issayas Afewerke.

"The whole offensive relied on the outcome of our clashes with the ELF," said Mr. Issayas, referring to the EPLF's battles last month with the rival Eritrean Liberation Front.

The ELF had been behind the EPLF positions. Suspecting that the ELF had agreed with the government, through Syrian negotiators, to collaborate, the EPLF attacked the ELF and pushed them back to the western border.

The government offensive began almost as soon as the intercommunal fighting ended.

"This offensive began without full Ethiopian preparations because it was taken that there were loopholes in our defence lines," Mr. Issayas said. "It was first of all aimed at extending our flanks on the Afabed front and then penetrating the centre," he added. "All their attacks failed and the positions of both sides are the same today as they were two weeks ago."

No figures of Ethiopian casualties were available yet, Mr. Issayas said.

He said EPLF losses were "limited" because the guerrillas were mainly fighting a defensive war from fixed, entrenched positions while the Ethiopians were exposed in open, human-wave assaults.

The Ethiopian government controls major coastal towns in Eritrea. There are two fronts in the area, the southern between Afabed and Nakfa, held by the rebels, and the northern to the west of the small port of Marsa Teklai.

The EPLF had suspected the Ethiopian strategy was to draw EPLF forces to the southern front, then overpower the northern front, cutting off the EPLF from its supply lines.

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Linowitz carries word from Reagan to Egypt

CAIRO, Dec. 14 (AP) — U.S. surprise message on the stalled Palestinian autonomy talks from President-elect Ronald Reagan. President Jimmy Carter's special Middle East envoy arrived in Cairo today armed with a

Mr. Sol Linowitz flew here for a round of meetings intended to boost the bogged-down autonomy talks that, despite being widely criticised, Mr. Carter considers to be one of his greatest foreign policy successes.

Mr. Linowitz responded "yes" when asked at Cairo International Airport if he was carrying a message from Mr. Reagan, whose aides have said will continue the sputtering talks, but with unspecified modifications.

Well-placed sources at the American embassy here said before Mr. Linowitz's arrival that they were unaware if the envoy was carrying anything beyond autonomy missives from Mr. Carter.

Mr. Linowitz is also scheduled to meet with Egyptian President Anwar Sadat tomorrow before fly-

ing to Israel the following day. They Camp David accords, mediated by the United States in 1978, led to an Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in March 1979. In the treaty, both sides pledged to try to create a form of self-rule for the 1.2 million Palestinians living on Arab lands the Israelis occupied during the 1967 Middle East war.

After 22 months of on-and-off bargaining, Egypt and Israel have agreed on a scattering of lesser autonomy discussions, but five main issues have prevented the negotiators from making significant progress.

These are: the size and power of an elected Palestinian council; Israel's policy of building settlements on the occupied lands; the future of occupied East

Jerusalem, annexed last August by Israel; Israeli military presence in the regions once a form of autonomy is created; and water rights.

The accords set May 26 of this year as the deadline for establishing a form for Palestinian autonomy.

Mr. Sadat, however, called off the talks before the target date in angry reaction to the acceptance in the Israeli Knesset of a bill declaring all of Jerusalem the eternally undivided capital of the Zionist state.

Egyptian and Israeli bargainers flew to Washington, where private talks resulted in Israeli assurances the bill would die quietly.

2 settlements to expand

TEL AVIV, Dec. 14 (AP) — Israel plans to build a new Jewish neighbourhood northwest of occupied Jerusalem and expand two Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank. Israel Radio reported today.

All of the construction is slated for state-owned land according to the report, which could not be confirmed with settlement authorities. The state radio said a Jewish neighbourhood will be built on about 48 hectares near Nebi Samwil to complete the encirclement of the capital by Israeli housing. The land is outside the municipal boundaries.

Another 100 hectares are to be added to the Kiryat Arba settlement near Hebron, the report said. The land will be declared state-owned. Bedouins presently occupying the uncultivated, stony area will be entitled to appeal to the military government or the supreme court, according to the radio report.

The land, near the Arab village of Sift, is to be converted to an industrial zone for Kiryat Arba.

The Ariel settlement, 35 kilometres east of Tel Aviv, also is to be expanded, the report said.

Israel security chief quits

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Dec. 14 (AP) — Israel announced today the retirement of the head of the nation's security service, the Shin Beth, who was embroiled in controversy over the investigation of the car-bombings of three Palestinian mayors.

The outgoing security chief, Mr. Avraham Achituv, has denied that the controversy had anything to do with his retirement. He has said he asked long ago to be discharged on the grounds that six years as head of the Shin Beth "is enough."

The name of the head of the Shin Beth is an official secret and its disclosure is a criminal offence. Therefore his replacement's name cannot be published.

The government announced that the new Shin Beth chief would take office next Sunday.

A Washington, D.C., newspaper alleged last summer that Mr. Achituv asked to resign because Prime Minister Menachem Begin supposedly was blocking the Shin Beth's investigation of the bombings last June that crippled Mayors Karim Khalaf of Ramallah and Bassam Shak'a of Nablus.

Mr. Khalaf lost part of his left foot. Mr. Shak'a lost both legs at the knees.

Shin Beth was also investigating

Syrians complete pullback

DAMASCUS, Dec. 14 (AP) — Syria has completed a withdrawal of an estimated 50,000 troops and 1,200 tanks from the border with Jordan, sources here said today.

The week-long pullback followed intervention by Saudi Arabia's Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz and defused a crisis that brought the two nations to the brink of open conflict.

Sources said the last stage of the withdrawal was completed Friday night.

Syria began moving armoured divisions to the border on Nov. 20.

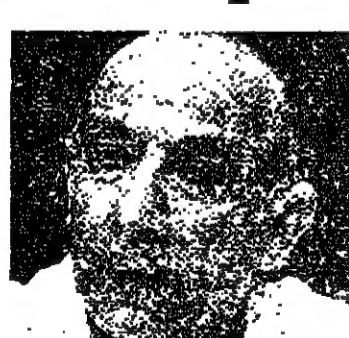
Begin's cabinet splits on bare-bones budget

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Dec. 14 (R) — Prime Minister Menachem Begin clashed today with members of his coalition government over a proposed austerity budget and the finance minister suggested early general elections, cabinet sources said.

The encounter developed at the first cabinet discussion of Finance Minister Yigael Hurvitz's tough 1981 budget proposals designed to head off 200 per cent inflation in an election year.

The sources quoted Mr. Hurvitz as saying inflation was now running at about 150 per cent — the world's highest — and could easily top 200 per cent a year if drastic measures were not adopted immediately.

Mr. Hurvitz was supported by a few of his colleagues but a majority backed Mr. Begin's objections



Yigael Hurvitz

to many of the proposals, particularly those affecting defence spending, the sources said.

They quoted Mr. Hurvitz as saying: "If we cannot agree on these critical economic measures, then perhaps we should call early general elections."

Elections are scheduled for November 1981.

Mr. Hurvitz said after today's cabinet session that he had demanded the new budget should not exceed that of the current fiscal year, which stands at 65.3 billion shekels (\$5.24 billion).

Sources close to the finance minister said last night that a cabinet rejection of his proposals might lead to his resignation, a move which could topple Mr. Begin's shaky coalition.

"The budget I proposed to the government is the only one we can afford next year... I will not present an alternative one," Mr. Hurvitz said today.

Cabinet acceptance of his plan would at best bring inflation down to 100 per cent a year, according to economic experts.

But implementing the austerity measures was certain to lower the standard of living, increase unem-

ployment and reduce public welfare services.

Ministers were clearly reluctant to adopt such harsh measures before elections in which, according to recent opinion polls, the government faces defeat.

Mr. Hurvitz is said to advocate granting special benefits to exporters to try to reduce Israel's huge trade deficit.

His advisers are also reported to favour restoring some foreign currency and import controls which the government abolished soon after coming to power in 1977 — an action widely blamed for causing the upsurge in inflation.

The unprecedented inflation rate has shaken Israeli industry and public services, with frequent strikes by employees complaining of a constant drop in their standard of living.

Actual torture, he said, is applied to known or suspected extremists. One top military man confirmed there had been cases of torture and said they happened mainly when police were frustrated by an inmate's refusal to give information about suspected terrorists still at large.

The respected Turkish magazine *Yunki* recently published the details of nine deaths in Turkish jails since the coup and tied them directly or indirectly to torture. The magazine detailed the deaths of:

—Extreme leftist Abidin Ceylan. He was questioned by the chief of the police branch dealing with political and subversive investigations. Mr. Ceylan was found dead in his cell after the first interrogation. He had three broken ribs and traces of burns from electric shock. The military has started a case against the interrogator and is seeking a 22-year jail term.

—Mr. Sadan Gazeteci died in Izmit prison near Istanbul after he allegedly was beaten and tortured. A court in Izmit arrested the prison director and six wardens on grounds "they caused the death of the detainee by applying torture."

—Mr. Ahmet Veziroglu, a lawyer representing a left-wing labour group, reportedly jumped from a 5th floor window in the Bursa prison and died. He was said to have been the second suspect to die by jumping out of that police building recently.

—Mr. Hasan Ozmen, an Ankara physics student, collapsed and died after a long interrogation session in an Ankara prison. His body was bruised. The military ordered the arrest of the deputy chief of the police political section.

—Mr. Ahmet Karlangac, one of the alleged murderers of former prime minister Nihat Erim, reportedly went berserk and killed himself by bashing his head against a prison wall.

—Mr. Bekir Bag and another unidentified prisoner died in Ankara's Mamak military prison and the martial law command announced the beginning an investigation on Nov. 11.

—Mr. Ilhan Erdost, a well-known leftist publisher, died in a military transport truck on the way to Mamak prison after soldier allegedly crushed his skull with the butt of a rifle. One officer and eight soldiers have been taken into custody.

Former inmates allege torture in Turkish prisons

ANKARA, Dec. 14 (AP) — Prisoners released from Turkey's jails claim interrogators used beatings and even

accounts by prisoners, who asked not to be named, meshed reports in Turkey of nine inmate deaths — most of them linked with torture or beatings — since the Sept. 12 coup.

A cup of tea in an Ankara cafe, a 22-year-old leftist student his 90 days in confinement which began after his arrest the day of the Sept. 12 coup.

He said he was questioned four times and was abused on three occasions but never charged with a crime. He said he was a member of a pro-Moscow group but not a terrorist. Claimed he was first beaten on the head and then on the chest. During a later interrogation, he claimed he was held two electric wires while the current was switched on.

He said he was beaten on the legs and the arms. He said he was beaten on the legs and the arms. He said he was beaten on the legs and the arms.

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ACDIMA board meeting bolsters economic unity

By Sara O'Neil
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Dec. 14 — Political division may plague the Arab World; but the drive toward integrated economic and social development has been pushed another step forward this week by the successful board meeting of the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA).

While it was held in Amman on the heels of last month's not fully attended Arab summit, representatives from Syria and Libya were among the nine members of the board (along with Iraq, Saudi Arabia and three other major shareholder states) who gathered here to formulate company plans for pioneer pharmaceutical joint Arab ventures in the region.

A \$140 million antibiotics plant and a \$80 million pharmaceutical glass containers plant, to be set up in the coming decade in Iraq and Syria respectively, will be the first such projects in the whole region. Dr. Hashem Dhaher, director general of the Amman-based ACDIMA, told the Jordan Times. Pharmaceutical formulation plants calling for an investment of \$56 million each are to be established in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait within the next three years.

The board was able to set a schedule for all but one of these projects during their Amman meeting. A contract for detailed engineering and design of the antibiotics plant in Iraq should be awarded early next year. This plant will provide materials for the neighbouring formulation plants—or "cookbook facilities"—as they are nicknamed—such as the ones already established by the private sector in countries like Jordan, and ACDIMA's Kuwaiti and Saudi projects. These two plants will also be ready for tenders to be announced in early 1981.

The pharmaceutical glass containers factory in Syria, however, needs an updated feasibility study. Dr. Dhaher explained, since the original estimate for an investment of \$125 million has to be revised to take into account Egypt's current exclusion from the market. An investment of \$70 to \$80 million is the likely amount now needed.

Regional self-sufficiency in pharmaceuticals is the long-term goal which the four-year-old pan-Arab company is fostering based on joint Arab economic development. Dr. Dhaher explained, "Coordination for economic integration is the real basis for Arab unity," he said. "It is a matter of interaction between people (which cannot be eliminated by political disputes), as made evident here. Despite all the political confusion, the close ties forged by the board of directors continue."

The company was set up in March 1976 by the Council for Arab Economic Unity, with its headquarters in Cairo. Following the signing of the Camp David accords, and Egypt's expulsion from the Arab League, ACDIMA's headquarters were moved to Amman; but some KD 17 million of the company's capital remain locked in Cairo.

"We the board members are all concerned with one objective: to see the company get off the ground," Dr. Dhaher explained. ACDIMA acts as a mother company which aims at establishing projects which will meet about half the pharmaceutical needs of each country, or group of ACDIMA states, benefiting from a company project.

ACDIMA's share in each project's investment is set at 25 per cent. "The rest we promote through Arab investment companies, local government loans and public subscriptions," Dr. Dhaher said. The private sector's share is to be not more than 30 to 40 per cent.

ACDIMA's objectives centre on three main areas: production, research and marketing. In production, ACDIMA has already made a start with the four current projects; and in research, the company has just adopted a plan to invite local research institutes to promote local industry in coordination with ACDIMA. In the marketing sphere, action will be taken once the projects are under way.

Crown Prince starts Spain visit today

AMMAN, Dec. 14 (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will start an official visit to Spain Monday at the invitation of the Spanish government, according to an announcement by the Royal Court today.

It said that during the visit, which will last several days, Prince Hassan will meet with King Juan Carlos and Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez, as well as senior Spanish officials.

The Prince will be accompanied on the visit by a delegation of several Jordanian officials. The announcement said. He will be going to Madrid from Holland, where he is now on a private visit.

Queen opens new building at aviation training school

AMMAN, Dec. 14 (JT) — Her Majesty Queen Noor opened today a new building at the civil aviation training institute which bears her name.

Touring the various sections of the institute, the Queen was briefed by officials on its various activities and functions. The institute trains Jordanians and other Arab nationals in civil aviation communications and air traffic control.

Accompanying the Queen on her visit to the institute were Minister of Transport Ali Suheimat, the director of the Civil Aviation Directorate, Sharif Ghazi Rakun, and several other officials.

The Queen Noor Civil Aviation Training Institute was constructed with Iraqi aid, and Iraq donated \$500,000 for the construction of the new building in September.

King Talal Dam benefits from rain to the tune of 10 million cubic metres

AMMAN, Dec. 14 (Petra) — Nearly 10 million cubic metres of water have been collected in the reservoir behind the King Talal Dam in the past three days due to the recent rainfall, according to an official at the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA).

He said that the water flowed into the reservoir gradually enough to prevent any accumulation of silt. The rainfall raised the water level in the reservoir by six metres to 156 metres above sea level, he added.

Twenty-six million cubic metres

of water from the reservoir were drawn off via canals or pipes to irrigate lands in the Jordan Valley last summer, the official said. But he added that a total of 46 million cubic metres are expected to be used this year to irrigate an area of 60,000 dunums.

JVA considers the collection of 10 million cubic metres of water at this time of the year to be good well for this year's crops, and expects that a total of 48 million cubic metres will be accumulated in the reservoir by the end of the winter season.

Jordan week planned in Britain

AMMAN, Dec. 14 (Petra) — The Arab-British Chamber of Commerce has decided to hold a Jordan week in Britain during February 1981 to promote the sale of Jordanian goods, and to issue a special edition of the chamber gazette on Jordan.

The decision was taken at a board meeting held in London on Dec. 4, attended by the vice president of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce, Mr. Zuhair Asour.

The board decided to invite Jordanian economists and financiers to take part in a seminar for British businessmen and contractors who have carried out projects in Jordan.

The board also decided to organise an Arab international exposition in London.

GUEST COMMENTARY

A chance for Arabs to state their case

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following commentary is by former U.S. Senator James Abourezk, who is now an independent lawyer and consultant based in Washington.

By James Abourezk

AMERICAN elections nearly always resemble a Turkish wrestling match. Only after the confusion of dozens of major contests do the winners stand up to be assessed and analysed.

More surprising than Mr. Ronald Reagan's landslide win was the Republicans' sweep in the U.S. Senate, a change that provides an interesting comparison with the previous Senate lineup.

The chairmen of Senate committees are chosen on the basis of seniority by members of the majority party. Seniority is determined by the length of time a senator has served on a particular committee, and not by his total time in the Senate. For example, if a senator has been in the Senate for 30 years, and has only recently become a member of the foreign relations committee, he must wait in line to be chairman behind any other senator who has been a member of the committee longer, but who may have been in the Senate only a few years.

Before the Nov. 4 elections, the Democrats held 59 seats to 41 for the Republicans. The Republicans made a net gain of 12 seats, giving them a 53 to 47 majority in the new Congress which convenes Jan. 3. As the majority party, they will also place their people as chairmen of all committees.

On the foreign relations committee, Senators Church, Javits, and Stone were defeated — all three of whom were strong allies of the Israeli lobby. New members of the committee will not be chosen until the new Senate convenes, but Senator Charles Percy of Illinois, who is first in line for the Republicans, has announced his intention to accept the chairmanship of the foreign relations committee.

Mr. Percy has visited the Middle East a number of times and has expressed sympathy for the Palestinians. Perhaps readers will recall that Mr. Percy met Mr. Yasser Arafat in Beirut during one of his trips, then came under heavy attack from Zionists upon his return to the United States. This political pressure forced Mr. Percy to soften his pro-Palestinian statements somewhat, but through it all he has remained fair and has refused to "demagogue" against the Arabs.

Although the foreign relations committee has virtually no power, its chairman can always exert some influence because of the committee's prominence as a platform from which to speak.

Perhaps even more significant a change is the ascendancy of Senator Mark Hatfield, the Oregon Republican, to chairmanship of the Senate appropriations committee. Mr. Hatfield introduced an amendment earlier this year (which was defeated) which would have deprived Israel of U.S. aid money for building settlements in the West Bank. The appropriations committee does have both power and influence because it can withhold money from the administration if it chooses.

Whether or not influence and power will be

used vis-a-vis the Middle East is an open question. I believe the answer to this question lies in the positions taken by the Reagan administration on the extent of support Republican give to those positions.

And again, Mr. Reagan's position on the Middle East will be dictated by domestic much the same as previous presidents. All other things being equal it is highly probable that Mr. Reagan will respond to the pressure of the Zionist lobby. But there are factors which may enter into his decision process.

1. Support of American Jews has gone to liberals, mostly Democrats, of the Zionist leadership in the United States. It is in direct contrast to the position of Mr. Reagan and his right-wing coalition. Unless the American Jewish community makes a massive shift in political allegiance, Mr. Reagan cannot count on Jewish support in any event, making him less vulnerable to Zionist pressures.

2. The impact of Mr. Reagan's big business constituency on his Middle East decision-making, provided American big business is willing to exercise their influence to try to change American East policy. Until now, business has felt no pressure from their partners in the Arab World to use their influence. Business people are typically not involved in political or economic issues unless they can financially profit from them. I believe, continue their influence unless they are subject to some kind of economic pressure. If the Arab business community were to become involved in a counter-lobby, it could make a major difference with a new U.S. Middle East policy.

3. The policies of the Arab governments themselves will be especially important business-as-usual attitude on their part to allow Israel to establish itself as a major power in the Arab world. American politicians often find it difficult to see how easy it is to make cooperation of Arab governments respect to oil and financial matters the same time giving Israel everything it wants.

The Israeli ambassador to Washington, Ephraim Evron, announced the day after that he would fly to California to meet with Mr. Reagan. No representative of the Arab World has yet announced a similar trip.

The Senate appears ready to shift to a balanced view of the Middle East because of the changes there. But unless the World moves quickly on the diplomatic and political front to present its case to the new administration, it will have passed up one of the few opportunities it has remaining to bring comprehensive peace settlement.

— Reprinted from Arab World

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: Once again, Mr. Sol Linowitz, the U.S. envoy to the autonomy negotiations, returns to the area, arriving in Cairo for talks on the progress of the negotiations. He will then go on to occupied Palestine for similar talks.

Evidently the objective of this review is to provide the administration of President-elect Ronald Reagan with a detailed report on the negotiations so that a plan may be drawn up for the next phase of the Camp David process.

Although no one wants to try to predict what the policy of the new administration will turn out to be, indications are that the Reagan administration will support the Camp David process — which means that the autonomy plot survives.

In the light of this, the Arabs should pool all their resources within a unified strategy as approved by the Amman summit, to salvage the Arab cause from the threat of the Camp David process and to rescue our kinsmen in the occupied territories from the autonomy plot. The fact remains that the imposition of a solution on the Palestinian people against their will is sheer repression, and cannot lead to stability or peace in the area.

The best way to characterise these negotiations is with the adage that a house built on sand cannot stand. The defiance of the will of the Palestinian people cannot bear fruit. Perhaps the Reagan administration will steer clear of this path of failure, particularly now that the Arab will has been launched on the path of action, and is no longer merely waiting for what others might come up with.

AL DUSTOUR: The news announced yesterday by the Israeli information media, that agreement has been reached between the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and the U.S. vice president-elect on the formation of a joint defence committee between Israel and the United States and the establishment of a U.S. military base in Israel refutes all U.S. claims about moral commitment in international relations.

The United States, more than any other country, knows that Israel is occupying Arab lands double its size, has displaced 4 million Palestinians from their lands, and continues to deny the right of these people to self-determination. Nevertheless, the United States, which is supposed to oppose this Israeli aggressive policy and to support the vanquished, is taking the initiative in concluding a military alliance with the aggressor.

The most notable feature of President-elect Reagan's speeches was his statement that he came to the presidency for one term only. Consequently, he will work for the prestige and respect of the United States more than for his own political interest. But to embrace Israeli aggression in this manner does not constitute a new U.S. outlook on the Palestine issue, particularly seeing that Israel still has the appetite for more conflict, and for more settlements in the occupied territories.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

The Soviet Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of the 1980 Olympics held in Moscow last July. Opening at 6 p.m. at the centre, near Third Circle in Jabal Amman.

The Department of Libraries, Documentation and National Archives presents a documentary exhibition at the Aqaba Hotel lobby as part of National Archives Week.

The Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Jordan National Gallery, presents an exhibition of paintings by Kosovar Contemporary Artists (from Yugoslavia), at the National Gallery in Jabal Luweibdeh.

Book display

Yarmouk University presents a Spanish book display at the university library. Books on display include a selection of works on Andalusian history, translations and modern Spanish literature.

Lecture

The Friends of Archaeology present a lecture about Jordan's geography and history by Dr. Denis Baly, at 6:30 p.m. at the American Centre (off Third Circle in Jabal Amman).

Videotape programmes

The French Cultural Centre presents: — Video-France Magazine (Actualités) — Les Couloirs de la Politique

Both programmes will be shown at the centre in Jabal Luweibdeh, at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. respectively.

Play

The Amman Drama Group, in cooperation with the Jordanian Players' Association, presents a play of social criticism, "Skaba" at the Wiladat Youth Centre this evening.

1980 chess tournament

The Royal Chess Club invites all chess players and those interested in chess to visit the club, to watch and take part in open games that will be held weekly and continue until the end of this year.

Location: Fourth Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 44713

FOR RENT

Furnished one-bedroom flat, with two sitting rooms, study, modern kitchen, 1½ baths, colour TV, telephone. Suitable for single person or couple without children.

Location: Fourth Circle, Jabal Amman
TEL. 43730

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, Dec. 14 (Petra) — Soviet-Jordanian friendship societies based in Jordan and the Soviet Union this evening signed an agreement for a programme of cooperation in cultural and education affairs. Under the agreement signed here the two societies will arrange exchanges of visits by Jordanian and Soviet lecturers and cultural delegations, and scholarships for 25 Jordanian students annually to study in the Soviet Union, of whom five will be selected for post-graduate scholarships.

AMMAN, Dec. 14 (Petra) — The cabinet today approved a project for direct links between the Civil Defence Directorate and industrial installations in the Amman area to enable Civil Defence men to respond promptly in case of fires and other emergencies. A Civil Defence spokesman said that a meeting of representatives of factories and Civil Defence Directorate officials will be held soon at the Amman Chamber of Industry to discuss steps to be taken in the implementation of the project.

MAFRAQ, Dec. 14 (Petra) — It was announced here today that a centre for joint services to seven bedouin settlements will be set up in Mafraq District. The centre will offer educational, health and postal services to the nearly 20,000 inhabitants of the settlements of Deir Al Kahl, Tal Rimah, Jadra Msannat, Rajil, Deir Al Katan and Khasha' Al Katan. A committee comprising heads of village or tribal councils in the district has been formed to make final arrangements for the establishment of the centre.

FANCY GIFT SHOP

FANCY GIFT SHOP

announces that on the occasion of the Christmas and New Year season their will be a big sale

starting Dec. 15, and lasting until Dec. 31, 1980.

Jabal Amman, Prince Mohammad Street
Tel. 42825

TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION INVITATION TO TENDER NO TCC 15/80

1. The Telecommunications Corporation of Jordan invites the submission of tenders for the provision, installation and commissioning of TDM Systems.
2. Agents can obtain a copy of the tender documents from: The Secretary of the Tender Committee.
Telecommunications Corporation, Third Circle, Jabal Amman, against payment a non-refundable fee of JD 50.
The latest date for bid submission to the Telecommunications Corporation headquarters in Amman is 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 31, 1981.

Tender documents include:

Section 1. Instructions to bidders.
Section 2. Requirement specifications.
Section 3. Technical specification.
Section 4. General conditions of contract.
Plus Addendum No. 1.

Director General
Eng. Mohammad Shahed Ismail

SPECIAL DISCOUNT UNTIL THE END OF 1980 FIVE PER CENT

GIFT VOUCHERS

Gift vouchers save you time and lots of worry. They are simple and practical, and are widely used all over the world. Gifts vouchers are now available in Jordan, and can be exchanged at 17 different places in Amman.

- 1 — La Broche patisserie, Jabal Hussein (tel. 67755)
- 2 — Milad ladies hairdresser, Jabal Amman (near Far Loaf, tel. 41978)
- 3 — Odds Records, Jabal Luweibdeh (tel. 39684)
- 4 — Panorama Restaurant, University Road (tel. 65211)
- 5 — Rainbow Video Centre, Jabal Amman Rainbow Street (tel. 44092)
- 6 — Sweetie, Jabal Amman, Prince Mohammad Street
- 7 — Nour Home, Jabal Amman (tel. 25911)
- 8 — Issa Saloon for men, opp. French Centre. (tel. 3088)

NB: Gift vouchers can be exchanged at 21 different most elegant stores in Amman

WANTED

An executive secretary with a very high command of English (reading, writing and conversation). Minimum of two years' experience; typing, filing and essential. Knowledge of French is preferable. Salary is excellent and income tax-free (minimum JD 17) and commensurate with efficiency and experience. Free medical treatment and other excellent facilities are offered. Working hours: from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. five days a week.

Please send your C.V., with address and Telephone number in confidence to:

The Manager
P.O. Box 17225
AMMAN, JORDAN

هكذا من الأصل

People... in the news



Denis Baly (photo by Marianna Pearson)

EDITOR'S NOTE: People in the News is to appear as a regular feature in the Jordan Times. Articles and photographs should be sent to the Editor, Jordan Times, University Road; P.O. Box 6710, Amman.

ENGLISH geographer Prof. Denis Baly, who has been teaching at Kenyon College in Ohio for the past 24 years, will give a lecture on the geography and history of Jordan at the American Centre, off Third Circle, on Monday, Dec. 15 at 6:30 p.m. He is in Jordan to see recent archaeological work and also to produce educational slide sets, including one on the desert castles, for an American firm.

"I've known this country for a very long time," Prof. Baly said, "because I came down here first 43 years ago in 1937 when I was teaching at Bishop's School. That was then the last building on Jabal Amman. I remember spending a day once with some of the boys at the school hiking from Amman down to Araq Al Amir—that was all open country then."

During the British Mandate days and afterwards, he taught at other Anglican church schools—at St. Luke's in Haifa, and St. George's in Jerusalem, where he worked until 1954. He believes a geographer studying a historical landscape does well to travel over it as its former inhabitants did. He has seen the country on foot, on horseback and by donkey.

At Bishop's School, because no geography books about the area existed, he produced his first work, a mimeographed pamphlet for the use of his pupils. Writing about the relationship of geography with Biblical history has occupied him ever since. His major works are *Atlas of the Biblical World* and *Geography of the Bible*.

"One of the things I'm interested in is producing a more accurate Biblical map for this part of the world," he said. "The only way to be certain of locations is by finding inscrip-

tions; but these are few and far between in this part of the world. Unless there's an excavation, you can't be sure. Names can move from one place to another—for instance Old Testament Jericho, New Testament Jericho and modern Jericho are three different places. We still have no idea where some of the places were, especially in the south of the country."

Concerning the difficulties of producing an accurate historical atlas he commented: "My wife says it was a mistake to marry a geographer, because she used to believe maps before she married me."

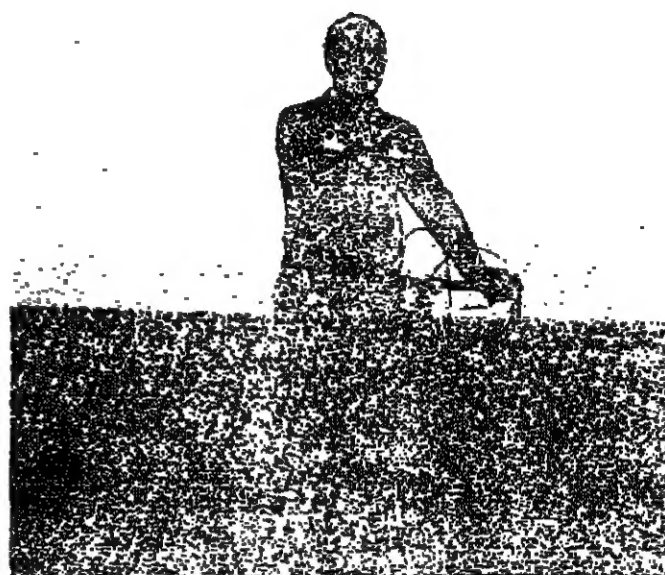
"We have to recognise there are a lot of question marks with Biblical places. Really 90 per cent of the places ought to

have a question mark after them. We indicate alternative names of sites in the index. You really can't put in a map which is all question marks—it's too confusing."

This is why archaeology is of great importance here now, because only a handful of places can be identified. Dhiban, Amman, certainly.

The geographer has to sit at the feet of the archaeologist. Identifying the site is an archaeological problem. But the job of the geographer is to show the relationship of the place to the environment.

"The fact that a Biblical event didn't take place somewhere doesn't mean the place isn't of Biblical importance," Prof. Baly concluded. "A great weakness of Biblical atlases is they concentrate so much on just the Palestinian area, and too much on the West Bank. A feature of the Palestinian world then and now is it is intimately related with the entire Middle East. You cannot understand it separately."



Amin Al Sa'dawi

Prof. Baly said he will most likely emphasise this regional aspect in his lecture Monday night.

ONE OF THE finest Islamic collections in the world is housed in the Benaki Museum of Athens, and the museum is beginning to publish a nine-volume catalogue of this collection.

Publication of the first volume was marked with a reception and exhibition attended by the president of the Greek Republic, Mr. Constantine Karamanlis, and Dr. Abdul-lah Masri, assistant deputy minister for cultural affairs of Saudi Arabia. Also on hand from Damascus was Dr. Gassim Toueir of the Syrian Department of Museums and Antiquities.

This previously little-known collection of Islamic art will be made available through the catalogues to the scholarly community and general public worldwide. The project is supported by Mobil Saudi Arabia and Mobil Oil Hellas, and a contribution from the Khashoggi Foundation.

The first volume, *Early Islamic Ceramics*, was prepared by Dr. Helen Philon, keeper of the Islamic Collection of the Benaki Museum.

Speaking at the ceremony was Mr. Walter E. MacDonald, director and vice president of Mobil.

IRAQI cyclist Amin Al Sa'dawi broke the world non-stop cycling record when he arrived in Amman recently.

He had pedalled for a staggering 182 hours for a whole week to reach his target.

But Mr. Sa'dawi isn't just interested in pedal power—he also performs acrobatic tricks on his bike.

He is currently touring Arab and European countries. Mr. Sa'dawi is married, with five children.

MUSIC REVIEW

A warming evening with the guitar

By Fawzia Mai

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Dec. 14 — Julian Byzantine's guitar concert yesterday evening created a cosy, mellow ambience that for two hours kept its audience oblivious of the unchained elements of Jordan's fickle winter outside.

In an informal manner that could have melted any ice—literal or figurative—in the hall, the 35-year-old Mr. Byzantine offered information on the composers in his repertoire, or on the individual pieces, amid the subdued screeching of his guitar's pegs as he tuned it. He started his programme with early music (Bach, Guerau) played on the Baroque guitar, a cross between the guitar and the lute that emits clinging notes from its nine strings.

Bach's prelude, fugue and allegro BWV 998 was definitely the favourite of many a listener, "and more cheerful than the colder opening pieces," as Mr. Jean-Claude Elias, a guitar player, remarked. "However, he (Mr. Byzantine) is very sensitive," he added. This was also the opinion of another guitarist in the audience: "He feels so much," he said. "one can sense a lot through his music. Despite his excellent mastery of the guitar, he does not sound too technical."

After Paganini's "Sonata in A Major" and a brief interval, Mr. Byzantine opened the contemporary, Latin portion of the concert with a sonatina by Federico Moreno Torroba. Left foot raised on a footstool, his whole being leaning attentively over his guitar, Mr. Byzantine picked out the final pianissimo notes that dropped softly into silence while the audience held its breath.

"La Catedral", Augustin Barrios Barrios Mangore's musical depiction of the cathedral of San Jose in Costa Rica, was outlined by deep, heavy chords as Mr. Byzantine's left hand performed a rhythmic dance on the tablature before running into lovely rivulets of sunshine.

More sliding chords and arpeggios were kept in store for the two studies—numbers two and 11—by Villa-Lobos; yet here again the guitarist avoided impersonal technicality to dwell in melancholy undertones.

Albeniz' well-known "Torre Bermeja", number 12 from "Piezas Características", and its languid melody emerging from the

running chords was followed by "Sevilla Number Three" from "Suite Espanola". Then, in response to the audience's insistent ovation, Mr. Byzantine struck up a Venezuelan waltz by Antonio Lauro.

Born of an Armenian father and an English mother, Julian Byzantine first heard Andres Segovia play when he was nine and, fascinated by the sound of the guitar, decided there and then that that was the instrument for him. After spending a year in Cyprus with his father, who was trying to return to his roots, he started his guitar studies at the age of 11.

At that time "there was literally a handful of people in London who could teach guitar," the performer reminisced. Such are the vicissitudes of history.

He became the first guitarist to receive the Diploma of the Royal College of Music, where he studied under John Williams. After further study with Julian Bream, Alirio Diaz and Andres Segovia, he launched out on an international career as remarkable for its global scope as for its success.

Earlier this summer, Mr. Byzantine made his debut at Carnegie Hall in New York, to considerable critical acclaim. His present visit to Jordan—his fourth—is one stop on a tour that started in September in Hong Kong. He will

have visited 19 countries, after giving concerts in Damascus and Karachi before returning to London.

At home, despite his busy performing schedule, Mr. Byzantine still finds time to teach a few students and to run his own Summer School for Guitar. In what is left of his time, he delves into his hobbies: collecting Chinese porcelain and taking part in archaeological digs.

Mr. Byzantine will release next month his eighth recording featuring mainly Spanish and Latin American music. It will be his second solo album, the first having been recorded with chamber music groups.



Julian Byzantine

AMERICAN lawyer Mr. Lewis Manilow has just completed a visit to Amman to gather information about educational and art facilities here.

He met senior Jordanian officials during his stay, which is part of a fact-finding tour of the Middle East.

Mr. Manilow is president of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, and is a member of the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

The Commission is an independent statutory presidential commission, whose members provide advice and guidance on the cultural, educational and communication programmes of the American government.

ONE CUSTOMER at an Amman money exchange bureau could not credit his luck.

He had asked for £3,000 in cash, and was handed three bulky packs by the clerk.

But when the man left the exchange, manager Mr. Salah Al Nadi realised he had given away bundles of £2,000 each—a total of £6,000.

So he advertised in a local newspaper saying he would be grateful if the money was returned.

To his delight the honest customer—a Jordanian, Mr. Izzeddin Shahin—gave back the extra money.

IRAQI Airways have switched their long-haul Far East flights from war-torn Baghdad airport to Amman.

The weekly flights to

Bangkok, Bombay, Delhi and Tokyo will depart on Saturdays until further notice.

A spokesman for Iraqi Airways said that passengers were being transferred by bus from Baghdad to Amman.

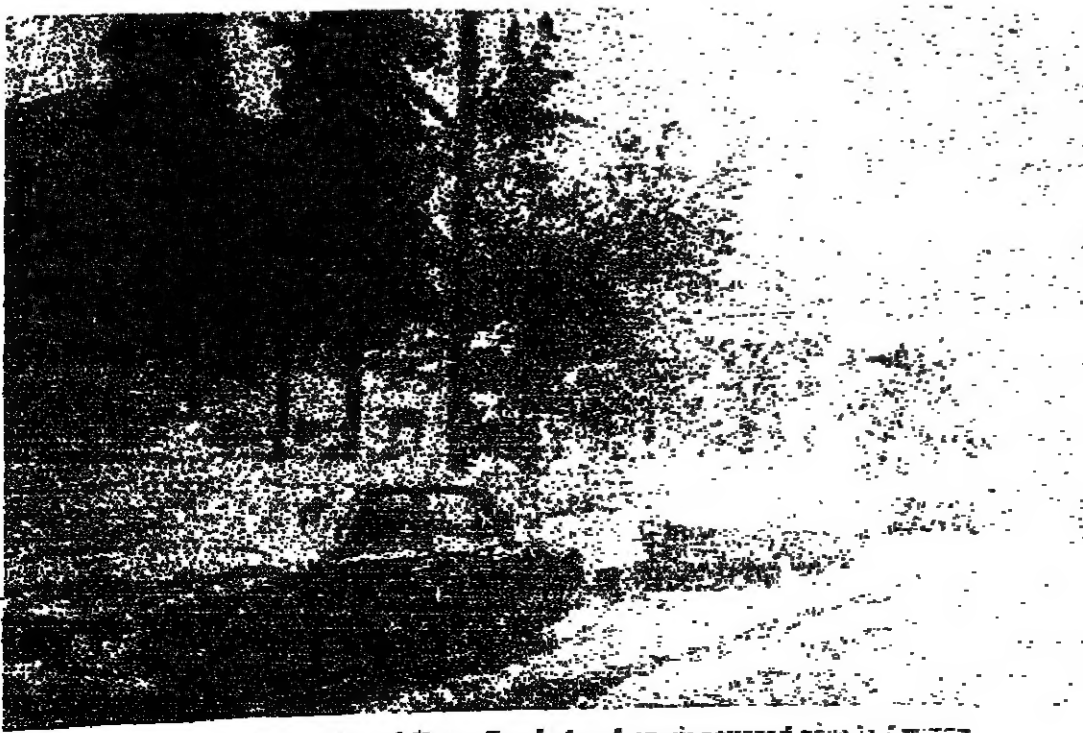
"So far there have been no

problems," she said. "The journey takes 12 hours and we have to allow two hours through customs."

"But our first passengers, who flew out last Saturday, seemed very happy with the arrangements."



Yousef Al 'Allan



AP wirephoto version of Yousef's photo of snow-covered scene in Amman

THE CHEAPEST way to keep a healthy body and a relaxed mind is to study yoga, according to one enthusiast.

Mrs. Samira Dajani, who practises yoga at the YWCA twice a week, is firmly convinced that the exercise can cure all ills. She said: "I never, ever take any medicines. I just practise my yoga, and whatever I have disappears."

"I'm sure that my belief in the power of yoga is a help; it is not only that," Mrs. Dajani tells her students that they should spend time every day meditating, in order to relax their minds.

"Life has become much more peaceful in Amman in the last few years," she said. "Many people are turning to drugs such as alcohol to calm them down. But if they practised yoga, they would have no problems at all."

At the moment Mrs. Dajani, who was born in Germany, runs two classes at the YWCA—on Monday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. Her students start the two-hour lesson with warming up, so that they do not strain their muscles.

"Yoga is a very gentle way to exercise. No-one should feel exhausted or ache afterwards. And, of course, it should be enjoyable."

DIPLOMATS from embassies in Amman meet this week to draw up a constitution for their new club.

Mr. Christophe Muench, on the German Embassy, was elected chairman of the Young Diplomats' Club, formed to promote good relations between the diplomats.

At the meeting, held at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, he said: "Very often we only meet representatives from their embassies when things go wrong, and we have to sort them out."

"We would prefer to get to know our colleagues, so that we can solve difficulties much more quickly when they do occur."

The club was originally intended for young diplomats; but so much interest was shown that it was decided that anyone young in heart would be accepted as a member.

Already there are 60 members, and Mr. Muench hopes the number will grow.

The club plans to hold weekly meetings for its members, and ready hopes to organise a ball in the New Year.

Other committee members elected were the vice-chairman, Mr. Mohammed Al Keldini, on the Libyan Embassy; Mr. Oliver Minto, on the British Embassy; and Mr. Ahmad Hattab, from the Egyptian Embassy.

FINLAND'S national day was celebrated at the Damascus residence of Mr. Juha Jonsenlahti, Finland's commercial officer for Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Cyprus and Kuwait, who will be relieved of his duties when a Finnish embassy opens in Kuwait next month.

It was a revelation for many guests to learn about Mrs. Ulla Jonsenlahti's own commercial endeavour: she owns and operates the world's only sailing boutique. What's more, her shop, specialising in women's wear and Finnish ceramics and handicrafts, is aboard the world's largest ferry boat. The vessel makes a 24-hour journey to and from Helsinki to the north German city of Ahlbeck, and is equipped to carry 500 vehicles and 1,800 passengers. The ferry is powered by jet engines; travels at 36 knots, or 60 kilometres an hour, and includes cabins, a sauna and swimming pool.

DIDN'T take Jordan Times staff photographer Yousef Al 'Allan long, after being hired as a photo "stringer" for the Associated Press news agency (AP), to get a photo out on the res— or for his new employers to recognise the value of his work.

When on Friday Yousef was asked to start sending pictures to AP, he just happened to have hand one newsworthy shot, the effects of Jordan's recent snowstorm on the streets of Amman. The snow is clearly news not only for Jordan, but for AP as well, cause that afternoon the Jordan Times' AP wirephoto machine squealed and brought forth a reproduction of Yousef's photo, complete with accompanying caption.

JORDAN TIMES Middle East Monitor

Iraqi business climate: business as usual -- maybe even better

By Anne Whitehouse

LONDON: Iraq's development programme continues and reconstruction of installations destroyed in the war is already under way, foreign contractors and businessmen report. In Baghdad the climate is very much "business as usual," or even "better than usual" according to contractors just back from Iraq.

"There has been no cut back yet in the rate of progress," commented one contractor. "Government officials are aggressively encouraging all kind of construction work, and are particularly cooperative towards foreign contractors."

Late last month the Iraqi state organisation for oil projects was in contact with some of the original contractors who built the Basra oil refinery. Ateliers de Construction Electrique de Charleroi (ACEC) of Belgium report they have been asked to supply the electrical parts for the refinery. These include replacement transformers, motor control centres and switch gears, to the value of \$2 million in the first stage.

The electrical parts will take between four and eight months to manufacture and ship to Iraq and a further two to five months to install at Basra. New mechanical parts are expected to be on site

and operative within the same period of time -- about ten months to a year. Mobile electrical substations have also been ordered from ACEC, to alleviate severe shortages of power in some areas.

Development projects continue apace with the awarding two weeks ago of a \$150 million contract to the French company Thomson CSF, for turnkey construction of a telephone network in Baghdad and other major cities. The contract follows another in September valued at \$184 million for broadcasting centre.

A spokesman for the British company Haiste and Partners reports the satisfactory signing last month of a large contract for the design of a water sewage treatment plant at Rust Umiah near Baghdad.

The size and scale of these recently awarded contracts has lent support to President Saddam Hussein's declared policy that business in Iraq will carry on as usual. When the war began, many foreign companies fled the country on the recommendations of either their governments or anxious insurance agencies. Their departure has left projects abandoned, hotels empty and the Iraqi authorities smarting at the loss.

Already allegations have been made by the Iraqi government

that foreign companies have used the war to renege on their commitments, and it is feared penalties may be severe.

The government commissions have been formed within the last few weeks to examine what action can be taken against companies and contractors who downed tools and left. According to unconfirmed reports from the Belgian consulate in Baghdad, contractors who left Iraq between Sept. 22 and Oct. 23 may not be allowed back into the country. Companies are clearly concerned that this may be the case. Sybstra, the Syndicates Belge d'Enterprises a l'Etranger has repeatedly denied that the company has pulled out of its work as main contractor on the Akashat and Al Quaim phosphate fertiliser scheme.

However, contractors are optimistic that the Iraqi government will treat with unanimity claims for additional costs as a result of the war. According to a spokesman for the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce, the Iraqi government will only refuse to pay

the contractor's extra expenses and insurance claims if the contractor has left them in the lurch. In those circumstances, the employer is justified in sacking the contractor.

Iraqi construction costs are inevitably higher than before the war because unskilled labour is at a premium, additional insurance is needed for employees, and there is a scarcity of building materials. Reports vary as to the availability of cement and steel. According to some contractors, materials are readily available

because so many contractors have left, but this situation can only be short-lived in view of the serious congestion at all the ports of entry through to Iraq.

"Without question the Iraqis are ready to reward and remember any company that takes the trouble to travel to Baghdad at present," commented Bernard Eagles of Haiste and Partners. He was speaking at a seminar "Iraq -- Business Strategies for the Eighties" sponsored by AMR International and MEED (Middle East Economic Digest).

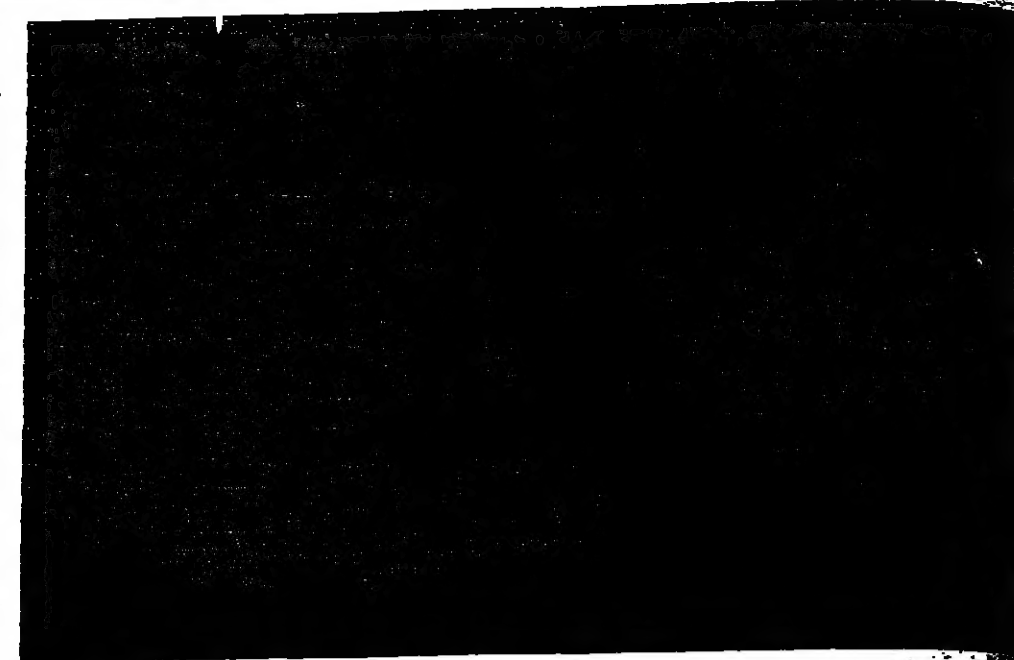
Clearly many foreign companies, although attracted by a reconstruction boom, are still nervous of venturing into Iraq itself. In Kuwait as many as 350 foreign companies, mostly American and European, have registered over the last month either in joint ventures with Kuwaiti com-

panies or with a Kuwaiti agent who will make the direct contact with Baghdad for them.

According to Kuwait freight handlers Ahmad Al Duaij and Partners, demand from Baghdad is twice the amount Kuwaiti handlers can supply. The Kuwait government recently had to ban the sale of foodstuffs from the Kuwaiti market to Iraq. Now only goods that arrive at the port in transit to Iraq are allowed across the frontier.

In the long term, the prospects for foreign business with Iraq are very good, with or without the war. The Financial Times has estimated that so far reconstruction work in both Iran and Iraq will cost in the region of \$15.4 billion, and in the case of Iraq there is no shortage of hard currency to pay for it.

Although crude oil accounts for 98.5 per cent of the country's export earnings, Iraq has foreign assets of \$41 billion -- enough to live off for some time. Recent reports that oil is once again flowing along the northern pipeline to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Ceyhan have now been confirmed. From a pre-war 3.4 million barrels a day, exports are now down to a mere 400,000 b/d, but it is expected to rise to 1.9 million b/d by the second half of next year, according to Row Rudd and Company in London.



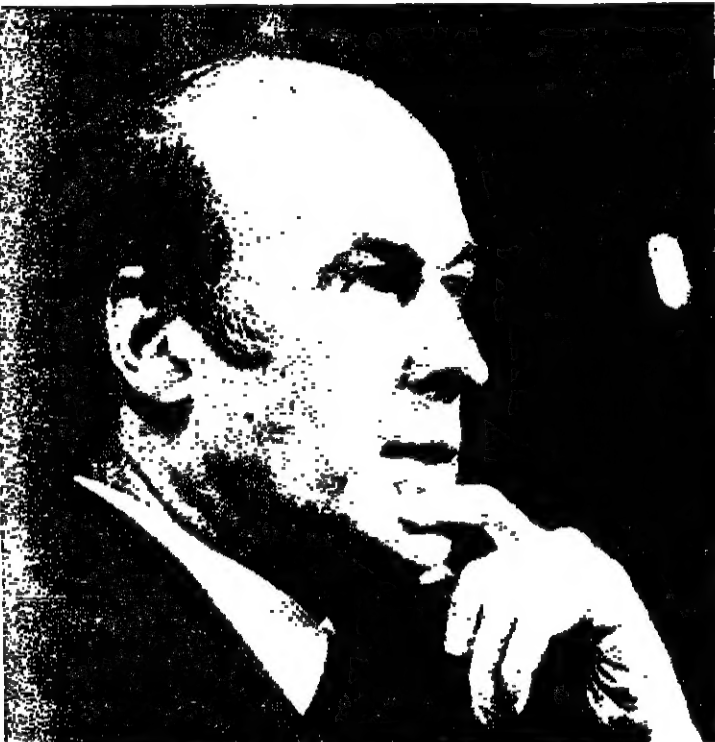
Big guns on the Shatt-Al-Arab: businessmen still welcome (AP wirephoto)

Before the war began, construction expenditure alone was expected to reach \$2.8 billion by 1983, a 14 per cent increase over 1978, and the government has already promised additional spending for reconstruction. In any event, contractors expect no payments problem for either reconstruction or development work.

During the 1950s Iraq was the only country in the Middle East to receive a World Bank loan and its return is unspent. In the '70s this failure to spend the allocated budget in its entirety continued, and observers now believe the war will provide an opportunity to take up previously unused slack. Contractors and experts on Iraq agree that regardless of any formal

ceasefire, hostilities between Iraq and Iran will most likely continue. In the suggest, foreign businessmen would do best to remain even now war has not officially declared.

--Reprinted from Saudi Dec. 12.



Giscard d'Estaing

Intense diplomatic moves centre on Chad civil war

PARIS: Intense diplomatic activity was under way this weekend over the civil war in Chad, with statements, trips and meetings involving France, Libya, African states and the Soviet Union seeming to add a growing international dimension to the conflict.

The office of French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing issued a warning Saturday against the continuation of "armed intervention of foreign elements" in Chad, clearly directed at Libya.

French sources have said between 4,000 and 5,000 Libyan troops and members of the Libyan-trained "Islamic Legion" from various African states are in Chad supporting President Goukouni Oueddei's forces against those of Defence Minister Hissene Habre.

But in a statement published in *Le Monde*, the Paris newspaper, Libyan number two Abdul Salam Jalloud said that while France believed Libya wanted to separate it from its traditional African interests, including those in Chad, "this is not true. We want to dispel the misunderstandings."

Major Jalloud said Libya had not intervened directly in Chad, but that Chad was Libya's neighbour and "we cannot accept that (Egyptian President Anwar) Sadat, aided by the Americans, put in place there a Hissene Habre regime that is hostile to Libya."

France maintains several thousand troops in Africa, under defence agreements with its former colonies, from Senegal to Djibouti. (Agencies)

Iran clergy urged to examine 'dangers'

TEHRAN: Iran's second-most influential religious leader on Sunday invited the nation's prayer leaders to meet in the holy city of Qom for a seminar on the dangers facing the Islamic revolution, Tehran Radio reported.

Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri of Qom issued the appeal to Iran's Friday Imams, the prayer leaders who give sermons in mosques.

He said the purpose of the gathering was "to discuss and suggest new ideas to solve the sensitive future of the Islamic revolution, and find ways to face the dangers created by the enemies of Islam," the radio said.

Ayatollah Montazeri said unnamed enemies of Iran were trying to weaken the nation's faith and unity and "replace them with corruption, doubts and dissent." Iran's revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini has repeatedly warned in recent speeches that dissent was threatening the unity of the army, engaged in a 12-week-old war with Iraq.

The conflict has pitted secular moderates who back Iranian President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr against the clergy-oriented Islamic Republican Party which supports Prime Minister Mohammad Ali Rajai.

Ayatollah Montazeri said the clergymen must meet every few months to "survey the general situation of the Islamic World and reach a decision on how to deal with the eastern and western plots." (AP)

Israel, China 'to cooperate'

FUWAIT: Israel and China have taken a number of steps to increase cooperation in military technology and economics, the Kuwait daily *Al Qabas* reported Sunday.

In a dispatch from Washington, the paper quoted what it called "informed sources" as saying a number of Israeli and Chinese technicians are currently staying in each other's countries to follow up this cooperation.

Under one of the agreements, China will supply Israel with coal in return for U.S.-made equipment such as radar systems and communications and computer appliances made in Israel, the paper said. (AP)

Germany puts off Turkey debts

ANKARA: Turkey and West Germany have signed an agreement postponing \$609 million of Turkish state and guaranteed trade debts, Turkish finance ministry officials said. The agreement, signed here, comes under an Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) scheme to reschedule about \$3 billion of Turkish debts, arranged last July in Paris. (R)

Malaysian premier for Islamic summit

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn will attend the Islamic summit conference scheduled to be held in Mecca for four days from Dec. 25. Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said.

He added that he had informed the prime minister, who is away on leave in London, of the summit.

Speaking after opening a Maori art exhibition at the national museum here, Tengku Rithauddeen said the Iran-Iraq conflict and the Afghanistan and Kampuchean issues would be discussed at this meeting of heads of Islamic nations.

The meeting would pave the way for closer cooperation among the Islamic countries, he added.

Tengku Rithauddeen said he would attend the Islamic foreign ministers' meeting in Mecca from Dec. 17-25. The meeting, he said, would prepare for the summit conference. (R)



Datuk Hussein Onn

U.S. black clergy deny hostage mission

TEHRAN: One of four black American clergymen visiting here said the main purpose of their trip was to expand understanding between the Christian and Muslim religions, not to work for release of the 52 American hostages held in Iran.

Dr. Lehman Bates, a Baptist minister in Washington, D.C., said that if the Iranians raised the subject of the hostages, the group would have to respond.

But he described the captives' fate as a small problem compared with the suffering of millions world-wide.

Dr. Bates said the group hoped to meet revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and other leading Iranian clergymen during the visit, which he expected to last several days.

Others in the group are Dr. Bates' brother Michael, who is an Islamic theologian, Dr. Phale Hayle, a Baptist minister from Columbus, Ohio, and Dr. Edward Freeman, a Baptist minister from Kansas City.

Dr. Hayle's son said earlier this week that the group would work for the hostages' release and hoped to bring them home. (R)



General Vo Nguyen Giap

Vietnam's Gen. Giap expected in Algeria

ALGIERS: Vietnamese Deputy Premier Vo Nguyen Giap was expected here Sunday for a four-day official visit, another stop on his African tour.

Gen. Giap was to meet Algerian officials and, observers said, might hold talks with leaders of the Algiers-based Polisario Front, which is fighting against Moroccan rule in the Western Sahara.

Gen. Giap has already been in Madagascar, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Guinea, Benin, Congo and Angola since leaving Vietnam with his delegation more than a month ago.

At a news conference Saturday in Luanda, Angola, Gen. Giap said his tour had been "very positive", and he spoke of the need to "strengthen relations among progressive and peaceful countries" within the non-aligned movement in order to create a new economic order. (Agencies)

Algeria gets Soviet frigate

ISTANBUL: A Soviet-made Algerian naval frigate has crossed the Bosphorus on its maiden voyage to its home port. Istanbul port authorities reported on Sunday.

They identified the warship as *Murat Reis No. 9* of the Koni class, equipped with guided missiles and built in the major Soviet naval shipyard at the Black Sea port city of Odessa.

The Koni class frigates, with full-load weight of 2,300 tons, have SAM-2 and SAM-4 twin-launched missiles as well as conventional guns on board.

The warship headed into the Aegean Sea after passing through the Dardanelles Strait. (AP)

Japan, Saudi trade talks

RIYADH: Japanese International Trade Minister Rokusuke Tanaka has had talks here with Saudi Arabian Trade Minister Suleiman Al Solaim, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

After the meeting both sides stressed the growth and importance of bilateral economic cooperation, the agency said.

The Saudi side stressed Japan's contribution to Saudi industrial projects in Saudi Arabia, particularly in petrochemicals.

Mr. Tanaka arrived here on Friday evening from Abu Dhabi. (Agencies)

Greek patriarch buried on Mount of Olives

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM: Funeral services for Benedictos I, the patriarch of Jerusalem and a leader of the Greek Orthodox Church, were held here Sunday morning.

The 88-year-old patriarch, who died of a heart attack last Wednesday, was buried on the Mount of Olives near the patriarchal residence overlooking the Old City.

Services were held in the Church of Constantine and Helen in the Old City, followed by a funeral procession through Zion Gate to the Mount of Olives.

Among the mourners were the patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church, a representative of the church of Cyprus and Metropolitan Yuvnal, deputy head of the Russian Orthodox Church, who came from the Soviet Union.

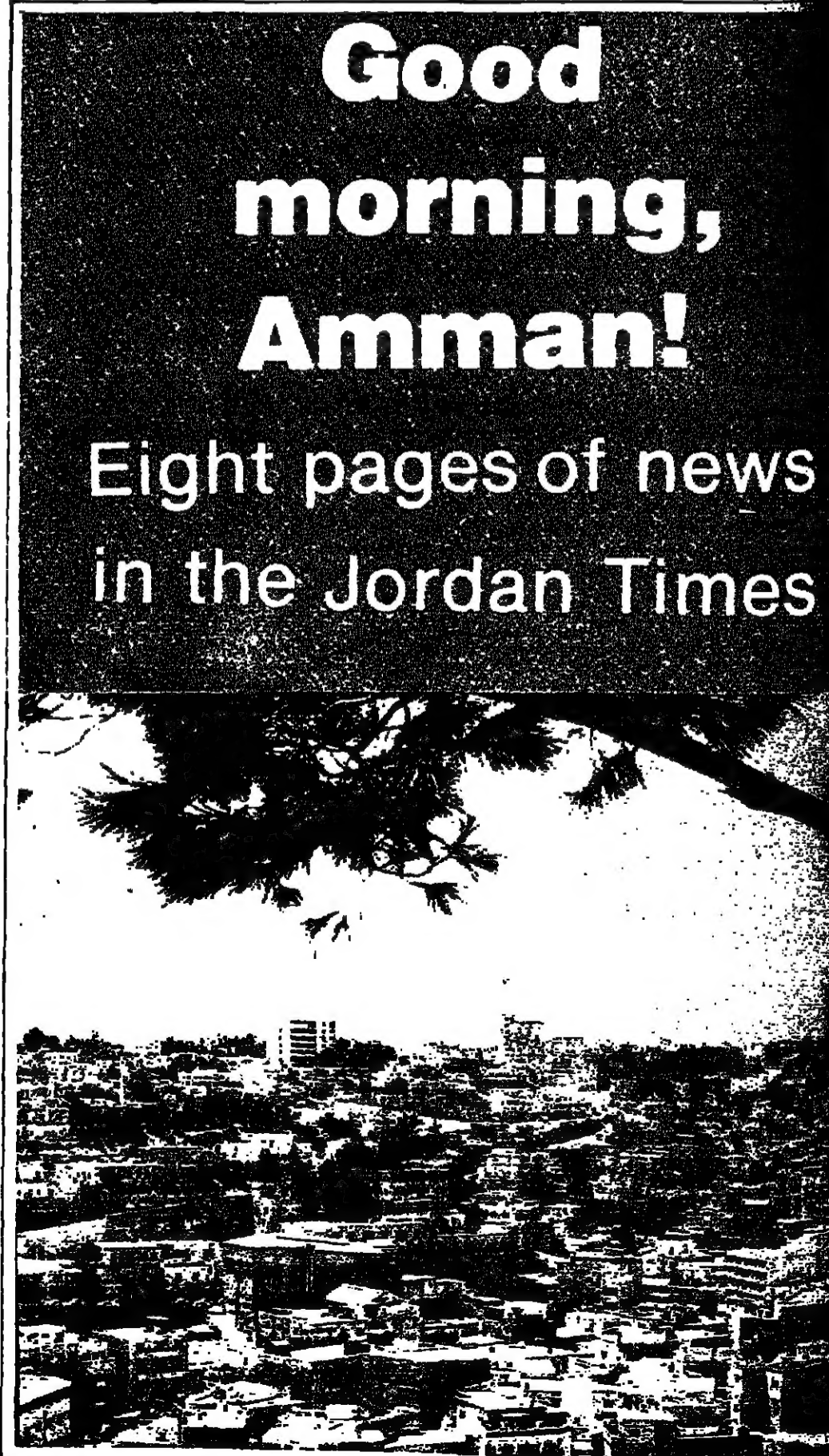
Israeli President Yitzhak Navon, former Israeli foreign minister Moshe Dayan, West Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Follet and other top government officials also attended the funeral.

Benedictos, elected patriarch by



Benedictos I

the Holy Synod in 1957, was the spiritual leader of 160,000 followers in Palestine and Jordan. As abbot of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Turkish-born patriarch was responsible for about 100 shrines and holy places in the Holy Land, including the tomb of Christ in occupied Jerusalem and the Basilica of Nativity in occupied Bethlehem. (AP)



Good morning, Amman!

Eight pages of news in the Jordan Times

Chinese snake-away speciality

KESS ALIVE! What will people eat next? One of the great delicacies enjoyed by the Chinese is fresh snake flesh — and for its taste and the belief that it cures all sorts of ills.

There are many different snake but one man who doesn't seem however they come is old Li Weixin.

It is a strange addiction. If he eat live snakes he becomes

turned this unusual habit into a full-time job and now works as an exhibitionist in a circus in south China.

Toads

swallowed his first live snake — a cobra — when he was seven, according to a Canton paper *Yangcheng* News.

Since then he has never stopped, putting away poisonous snakes, centipedes and live toads.

At a recent show in Guangxi province's Wuzhou, his eating habits spread panic among local officials. When the curtain went up, all the poisonous snakes had disappeared, swallowed by Li, and the circus director had to send urgently for more snakes from a nearby snake farm.

From these, Li promptly swallowed a particularly poisonous snake one metre long and as thick as a finger, the newspaper said.

If Li failed to get his daily ration of snakes he lost his strength and became ill, the newspaper added,

calling on scientists to come up with the reasons for this odd compulsion.

Conventional

For those who prefer their snake served in a more conventional manner they can enjoy all sorts of dishes at a restaurant in Guangdong which specialises in snake.

At a Guangdong banquet, snake ranks par excellence with shark fins and swallow nest.

For all the snake's terror-inspiring appearance and venom, its flesh is delicious and nourishing and capable of curing many ailments.

Lu Xun once lauded the first crab-eater for his courage. Just who first pioneered eating snakes, there is no way of knowing.

Nevertheless, 2,000 years ago, snakes were used in treating certain diseases. In the Tang Dynasty (618-907), poisonous snakes were found to be effective in curing leprosy. In the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), many kinds of snakes were used in making medicine. Snake-bite antidotes were also invented. In the continuous process of research on snakes, men found its flesh free of poison and edible.

Wu Man opened China's first snake dining house in Guangdong in a small bamboo shed 80 years ago. It is said he ate a snake every day. Known as "The King of Snakes" he lived to well over 90.

Guangdong people have a great many ways in preparing the snake. They make it into broth with chicken, garnished with chrysanthemum and lemon, deep-fry it with ham and mashed shrimp rolled up in fat to a tender crispness to be eaten with ketchup and peppery salt, stir-fry it with chicken or duck's gizzard and braise the snake skin with duck's web.

Dishes

There are more than 30 kinds of snake dishes. Special attention is paid to the choice of materials and preparation so as to tickle the palate as well as fortify the diner's health.

Guangdong people are very

particular about their three-snake dinner prepared from banded krait, cobra or king cobra, and Indian rat snake. For five-snake dinner the *Elaphe tenebrarius* and *Elaphe moellendorffi* are added. They are effective in stimulating blood and energy circulation and curing rheumatism, paralysis and arthritis. Stewed with chicken and cat's flesh and other materials, they are known as "potpourri of dragon, tiger and phoenix".

The essence of a snake lies in its gall which relieves rheumatic pains and removes phlegm. In the presence of the diner, the snake-handler makes a small incision on the snake's underside, squeezes out its gallbladder deftly and drops it in a cup of spirit which turns dark green instantly. The customer then downs it in one gulp. The gallbladder is valued at 5/8 the price of the whole snake.

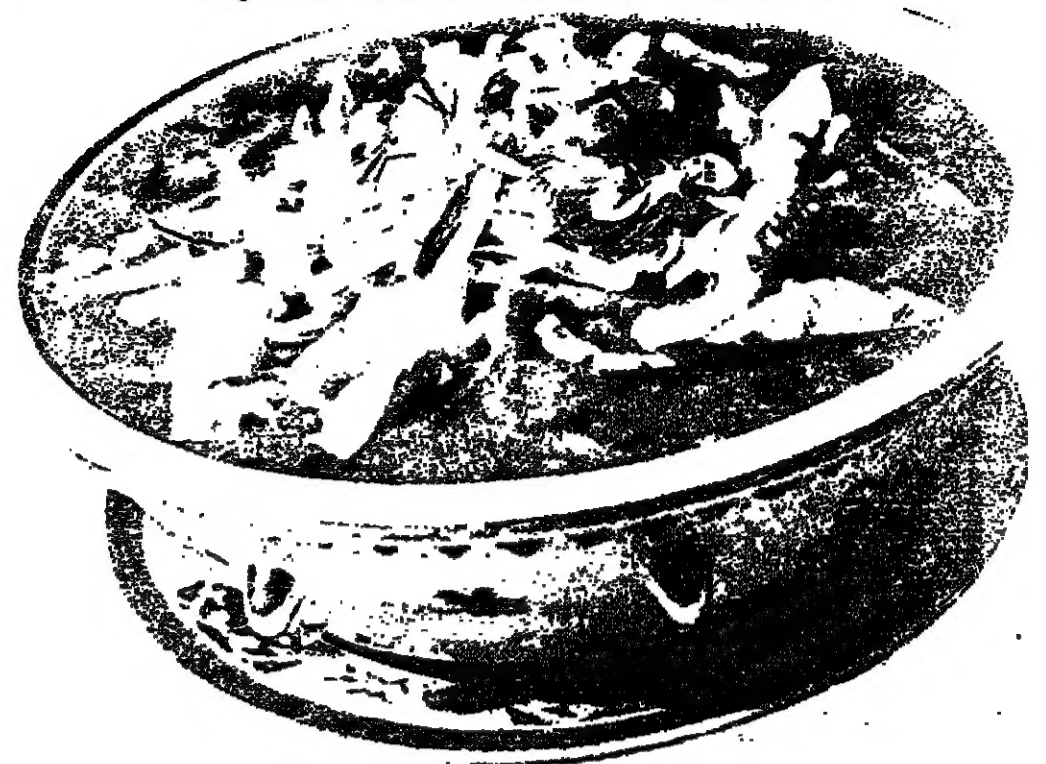
In recent years, abalone, shark fins, salamander and turtle have come to be used in the preparation of a snake dinner.

For the Guangdong people, autumn is the best time for enjoying their snake dinner. For before "Winter Comes", snakes are stoked up for hibernation and are therefore fat and nutritious.

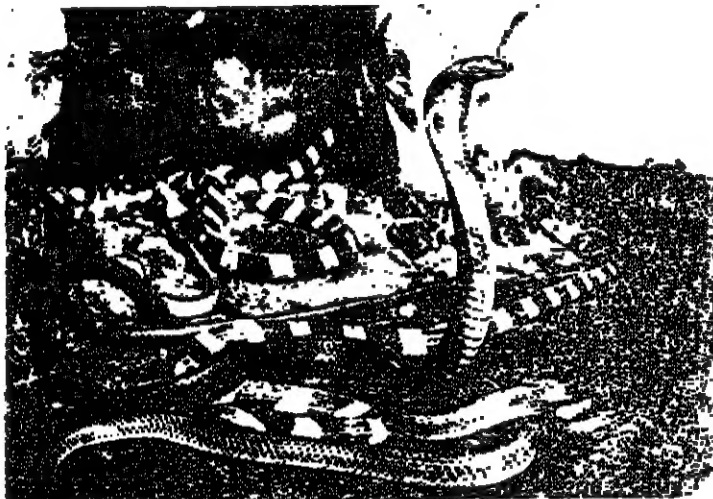
The Guangdong Snake Restaurant caters to hundreds of customers daily. Among them are foreign friends who take special delight in sampling these famous dishes.



Dragon's coat (snakeskin) and sea-dog (salamander) fillet



Five snakes stewed with chrysanthemum



A meal that Li Weixin would relish!



A snake banquet



Waiters extract a gall bladder

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عمان شيراتون بالاس Amman-Sheraton Palace

Amid heavy security for Bali meeting

Venezuela outlines oil price hike

BALI, Indonesia, Dec. 14 (R) — Venezuela tonight aired proposals for a price formula which would boost world crude oil prices by at least five per cent on Jan. 1, with more to follow during 1981.

Venezuelan Oil Minister Humberto Calderon Berti outlined his plan to reporters on the eve of a security-shrouded session of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

But he made clear that the plan hinged on the ability of participants to discuss a formal pricing agreement.

Delegates said this might not be possible in the charged atmosphere caused by the war between Iraq and Iran, both OPEC members.

Oil ministers of the 13 OPEC countries gathered tonight in a compound of luxury beach villas on this tropical resort island, heavily guarded by the Indonesian army and surrounded by a bamboo wall to keep out intruders.

The security precautions were among the toughest at any OPEC meeting since the organisation was founded 20 years ago.

Troops with automatic weapons patrolled beaches, guarded roads and sealed off the ministers inside their combined living and working quarters, impenetrable by press and public alike.

Security was tightened still further following rumours of a possible guerrilla attack on the Iraqis in revenge for their capture last month of Iranian Oil Minister Mohammed Javad Tunguyan.

Dr. Calderon said his pricing formula depended on Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, first adding two dollars to its present price of \$30 for a 42 U.S. gallon barrel.

The Saudi price is well under the prevailing OPEC average of about \$32.20.

OPEC would then use \$32 Saudi light crude as a benchmark



Dr. Humberto Calderon Berti

or marker. All prices would be aligned on the Saudi tariff, with exporters of premium quality crude such as Algeria and Libya allowed to charge up to five dollars a barrel more.

Dr. Calderon said OPEC could next estimate the likely rate of western inflation and economic growth for the first quarter of 1981 and, in line with these indices, lift the marker and all tariffs along with it by an agreed percentage.

Dr. Calderon said he anticipated that the rise would be about four per cent, although he had not yet worked out precise figures.

Together with the initial two dollar increase by the Saudis, now producing about 40 per cent of OPEC oil, the formula would therefore add at least five per cent on Jan. 1 to the present OPEC average of about \$32.20 a barrel.

Dr. Calderon estimated that prices would rise about 17 per cent over the whole of 1981, in what he said should be quarterly adjustments.

In effect the Venezuelan minister was proposing that OPEC should introduce its much discussed, long-term pricing formula

which it should have completed at a summit in Baghdad in November. The formula is backed by Saudi Arabia.

"If we are able to carry on and take a decision on prices, I am willing to put forward my ideas."

He said whether or not detailed pricing talks were held would depend on intensive lobbying now going on to prevent an Iran-Iraq row from upsetting the meeting.

Dr. Calderon said he hoped an agenda could be devised, in planned after-dinner informal talks tonight, to allow both warring countries to state their case early in the meeting — and then put their conflict aside.

"We are going to avoid any point which can lead us to any kind of confrontation," he said. "I am optimistic... we are going to prove to everyone that OPEC is very strong and it is going to be even stronger in the future."

Failing a formal price accord in Bali, delegates predicted modest unilateral price increases by OPEC members of between five and 10 per cent, with Saudi Arabia likely to go up two dollars.

Iran will raise 'kidnapping'

BEIRUT, Dec. 14 (AP) — Iran's delegation to the 13-nation Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Indonesia will raise the issue of the "kidnapping" of its oil minister by Iraqi forces, Tehran Radio reported today.

The Iranian reports suggested the showdown with Iraq, also a member of OPEC, would come at Monday's opening session in Bali, Indonesia.

"The release of the Iranian oil minister will be discussed in the first session of the OPEC conference tomorrow," an official of the Iranian oil ministry was quoted as saying.

Tehran Radio quoted the oil

Danish oil take-over

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 14 (R) — Danish Prime Minister Anker Joergensen announced today that the government planned to nationalise Denmark's entire North Sea oil and gas fields, presently held by Danish shipping and oil prospecting concern A.P. Moeller.

Mr. Joergensen told reporters talks with the company about a larger state-control in the fields had broken down and the government now planned to introduce legislation next January to expropriate the fields.

He said the government would sell off the new concessions to interested companies after the legislation was passed.

Danish North Sea oil output is expected to be about 40,000 barrels a day (b/d) in the early 1980s, which is modest beside the two million produced already by British and Norwegian fields.

A.P. Moeller was granted the entire Danish North Sea oil concession for 50 years in 1962 and currently exercises the concession in cooperation with Shell, Tassco and Standard Oil of California.

U.S. economy 'healthier' in 1981

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (Agencies) — The United States economy should experience a slow and slight improvement by mid 1981 at the latest with gross national product growing by two to 2.4 per cent in real terms for the whole year compared with a fall this year, according to general informed opinion here.

Industrialists and financiers broadly believe that the arrival of Republican President-elect Ronald Reagan in the White House on Jan. 20 will put public finances on a healthier footing leading to long-term growth.

But experts do not rule out that the beginning of next year could be marked by continuing "stagflation" or even by a renewed and appreciable fall in economic activity — mainly because of continued high interest rates.

The United States Chamber of Commerce for example has forecast that in the next six months industry must expect stagnant output, continued high unemployment, and excessive inflation. But it added that it envisaged that the first favourable signs resulting from Mr. Reagan's policies to contain the money supply and cut taxes, will be seen from the spring onwards.

Most leading financial institutions and banks have taken a similar line in their confidential newsletters.

Meanwhile some experts note that despite the unfavourable effect of high interest rates, the overall economy has so far appeared to hold up better than expected. The most vulnerable sectors such as the auto and construction industries have been worst hit. But the oil and related industries, together with the aviation and computer technology are doing well.

Latest official statistics indicated that contrary to what would be expected, unemployment did not get worse in November and that retail sales advanced by 1.8 per cent in value. They also stated

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Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low
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Jordan Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	3,338	2.350	2.210
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	34,000	1.700	1.500
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	500	1.710	1.570
Cairo Amman Bank	JD 5,000	200	14.500	14.500
Arab Bank Co. Ltd.	JD 10,000	475	121.000	120.000
Jordan Insurance Co.	JD 1,000	83	12.100	12.100
General Insurance Co. (Old)	JD 1,000	900	1.500	1.300
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	2,931	2.110	2.000
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	500	0.950	0.900
Arabian Investment and International Trading Co.	JD 1,000			
International Construction and Investments Co.	JD 1,000	3,800	0.860	0.800
Dar Al Sah'b for Press, Publications and Distribution	JD 1,000	3,865	0.870	0.800
Irbid District Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	5,730	0.950	0.900
Arab Development and Investments Co.	JD 2,000	250	1.180	1.100
Jordan Dairy Co. (New)	JD 1,000	1,100	1.260	1.200
General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	1,360		
Arab Aluminium Industries Co.	JD 1,000	1,640	1.300	1.200
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	200	1.540	1.500
Arab Chemical Detergents Industries Co.	JD 1,000	450	1.290	1.200
National Steel Industries	JD 1,000	3,000	3.480	3.400
Dar Al Daw' Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	1,000	2.770	2.700
Jordan Ceramics Industries Co.	JD 1,000	1,000	1.960	1.900
Jordan Paper and Cardboard Factories Co.	JD 1,000	1,091	3.650	3.600
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1,000	15,140	1.260	1.200
Jordan Lime and Silicate Bricks Industries Co.	JD 5,000	4,000	1.550	1.500
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarettes Co.	JD 5,000	311	3.350	3.300
Arab Pharmaceutical Industries Co.	JD 5,000	1,264	5.870	5.800
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	135	9.770	9.600
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD 5,000	191	28.000	28.000
	JD 10,000	2,120	9.180	9.150

Total volume of shares traded on Sunday, Dec. 14, 1980

JD 241,237

Total number of shares traded: 92,274

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Church throws full weight behind efforts to end crisis

Poland's bishops appeal for unity, moderation

WARSAW, Dec. 14 (R) — Poland's Roman Catholic Church today made an impassioned appeal for national

unity to overcome the current crisis and said the country's freedom and sovereignty were at stake.

A letter from Poland's bishops read out in all churches said the nation was going through a period of severe political and social tensions and material shortages that demanded sacrifices from everyone.

It called for moderation and responsibility to help stabilise the country's political and economic systems and said continued unrest and confrontation threatened Poland's sovereignty, a clear reference to the danger of a Soviet intervention.

"We have paid a great price for the freedom of Poland. Her security and sovereignty must not be subject light-headedly to the risk that we might lose them," the letter said.

"The need of the moment is a united effort by all to safeguard the institution of the state and the inviolable sovereign existence of the fatherland."

The bishops left no doubt that they saw the threat of a Soviet intervention as the alternative to a successful joint effort to settle the country's five-month-old crisis.

They said it was clear that nations which were a part of blocs or alliances did not enjoy full sovereignty. But they had a large measure of internal freedom, and all Poles should now put their hearts into rebuilding the country so that this was not put in jeopardy.

The Church declared a day of prayer for the nation and that at every mass from now on a special "prayer for the fatherland" should be recited, beginning with the words "defend us, so that we do not lose the freedom gained at the high costs of the blood of our fathers."

The emotional and patriotic tones of the letter signalled a major effort by the Catholic

Church to use its immense influence to end the months of instability. Around 80 per cent of Poles are believed to be devout Catholics.

Party chief Stanislaw Kania today also reiterated his confidence in the leadership's ability to solve Poland's problems in an address to the pro-government United Peasants' Party last night.

But he said the authorities must take a firm stand against anti-socialist elements who were creating tension and chaos in the country, and were determined to use the present crisis to destroy communism and take Poland out of the Warsaw Pact.

This appeared to be a strong hint that the government planned to crack down on dissident groups, a move which would be welcomed by its Soviet bloc allies.

Poland's farmers also held an angry meeting in Warsaw today to press demands for the right to form an independent trade union.

Nearly 2,000 farmers packed a hall to hear speeches attacking the government's attitude towards them and advice from senior officials of the Solidarity free trade union.

World pays tribute to John Lennon

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 (AP) — Radio stations from Luxembourg to San Francisco will go off the air for 10 minutes tonight in mourning for former Beatle John Lennon, and memorial services will be held around the world in one of the most extensive tributes ever paid upon a man's death.

Police expect a half-million people to throng Central Park in New York for a prayer session, and other observances were slated from Lennon's birthplace in Liverpool, England to Australia.

Lennon's wife, Yoko Ono requested 10 minutes of silence at 2 p.m. (1900 GMT) today in Lennon's memory.

Radio stations planning to honour Miss Ono's request for a simultaneous period of silence include Radio Luxembourg, which will go off the air at 7 p.m. local time, and radio stations QMET and KLOS in Los Angeles, where it will be 11 a.m.

Some 4,000 Lennon fans marched through Amsterdam, in the Netherlands, in a torch-light procession on Friday. The march ended outside the Hilton Hotel, where the suite the Beatles had occupied for their "bed-in" for peace 11 years ago was lit up and filled with flowers.

In Liverpool, where the Beatles got their start, impresario Sam Leach scheduled a memorial concert with a candlelight vigil.

In Sydney, Australia, an observance was planned at 6 a.m. to coincide with the period of silence despite the early hour. Melbourne and Brisbane also planned to pay tribute to the 40-year-old singer-songwriter.

In the United States, services were planned from Morgantown, West Virginia, to Des Moines, Iowa, where a 54-year-old grandmother was organising an hour of outdoor singing and a 10-minute silent vigil.

"I found everything in their music that maybe other people go to church for," said the grandmother, Mrs. Julia Terrell.

Philadelphia residents were asked to gather on the steps of the art museum at noon, and a three-hour free concert was scheduled in Miami's bicentennial park.

In New York, Martin Duffy, chief of the Midtown North police precinct said he expected 500,000 Lennon fans in Central Park today, about the same number that attended the Woodstock Music and Arts Fair in 1969. A city councilman suggested naming a portion of the park Strawberry Fields in honour of Strawberry Fields Forever, a song written by Lennon and Paul McCartney.

Another vigil was planned outside the Dakota, the luxury apartment house where Lennon, Miss Ono and their son, Sean lived.

The memorial concert in his native city of Liverpool erupted into chaos this afternoon as thousands of fans swarmed on to a makeshift stage.

Police estimated that some 100 people were injured, most not seriously.



Deng Xiaoping



Hua Guofeng

Hua's removal now seems assured

PEKING, Dec. 14 (AP) — The Chinese Communist Party is likely to remove Hua Guofeng as chairman at a central committee meeting late this month or early next month, diplomatic sources reported today.

Hua, however, is expected to formally step down at the full party congress in May or June, sources said. Changes in the party leadership first are approved by the powerful politburo and central committee. A conference already may be underway to prepare for the committee meeting, sources said.

Hua, the anointed successor of the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung, has come under a barrage of internal party criticism of late from the current leadership headed by Mao's old critic Deng Xiaoping, China's most powerful figure.

Fuel was added to reports of Hua's political demise when he failed to meet a Greek Communist Party delegation today. Vice Chairman Li Xianian received the group instead in a marked departure from party protocol that calls for the chairman to receive official communist guests.

Under pressure from the hierarchy headed by Deng, Hua gave up his post as premier last September at the national people's congress. That move too, was approved beforehand by the central committee.

Chinese and diplomatic observers say Hua's resignation is a foregone conclusion, although the timing has been a matter of speculation. Hua was criticised at a recent party disciplinary commission meeting, sources said, and he also is criticised in 4,000 copies of a party document.

The criticism will be formalised by the central committee, sources said.

Hua has come under fire for his handling of the economy in the two years after the arrest of the radical Gang of Four in 1976. China now says it made many blunders during that period in persisting in a leftist line. Hua was chairman and premier at the time.

Hua also cannot escape his past close association with the Gang of Four, currently on trial in Peking.

Before the trial opened, the indictment was known to contain about 60 charges, including some which implicated Hua, sources said.

Some reportedly referred to suppression of the "Tiananmen incident" when Hua was minister of public security, the nation's No. 1 policeman. That demonstration in April 1976 now is seen as a holy uprising against the repressive rule of the Gang of Four.

A bargain was struck, sources suggested, whereby Hua would agree to step aside as chairman and the court would agree not to drag his name through the mud.

The indictment was shortened to 48 charges and the Tiananmen incident is not mentioned.

Other offences by public security officers, or police, are expected to be blamed on Hua.

Hua is expected to be replaced by Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the party and a close associate of Deng Xiaoping.

Hua has not been seen in public or greeted guests since Nov. 27.

Hunger striker's condition sparks Ulster violence

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, Dec. 14 (AP) — Gangs of youths, hurling firebombs and stones, rioted in Londonderry today injuring three policemen, as the condition of one of seven Roman Catholic hunger strikers in jail here deteriorated sharply.

Hunger striker Sean McKenna, 26, was losing his eyesight, British officials reported, and refused all medication.

"Without treatment his condition is likely to worsen in the very near future and may become irreversible," a Northern Ireland Office spokesman said.

The renewed disturbances came as the danger of death neared for the seven men, who have now not eaten for 49 days in a hunger strike "to-the-death" demanding political prisoner status.

All police leave in the province has been cancelled indefinitely from tomorrow while security chiefs await for possibly the worst outbreaks of violence since the current sectarian conflict erupted in 1969 if a hunger striker dies.

Police reported eight arrests in five hours of rioting overnight in Londonderry, 105 kilometres west of here.

Some 150 youths supporting the hunger strikers rampaged through Londonderry streets for the third straight night, stoning police, smashing windows, looting and setting fire to a grocery store and attacking a fire tender with axes, forcing it to withdraw.

Police said apartment dwellers above the store put out the fire themselves.

In another weekend disturbance, demonstrators and police clashed on Saturday night in Armagh, 56 kilometres southwest of here, where three Catholic women convicted guerrillas began a hunger strike 14 days ago.

Dr. Obote to be sworn in despite 'rigging' allegation

KAMPALA, Dec. 14, (R) — Dr. Milton Obote went ahead today with his preparations to be sworn in as

Uganda's president tomorrow, despite loud protests from his opponents that the election was rigged.

A mood of sullen resentment hung over Kampala after Dr. Obote's Ugandan Peoples Congress party (UPC) was declared the winner in general elections held last week.

Diplomats expressed fears that his return to power after eight years in exile could provoke violent opposition from Uganda's largest tribe, the Baganda, which he had alienated by ousting their king, the Kabaka, from the presidency in 1963.

Dr. Obote, deposed by Idi Amin in 1971, is due to be sworn in at the Kampala parliament building tomorrow after the UPC won a decisive majority in the 126-seat assembly.

The chairman of a Commonwealth observer group, which supervised the two-day elections, said in London today that apart from a few incidents it was satisfied with the results and denied a press report the group had left Uganda earlier than planned in disgust.

"Barring a few incidents we think it reflects the views of the people," Ghanaian diplomat Ebenezer Debrah said of the election, which for the first time returned an African president who had previously been deposed in a military coup.

But the Democratic Party (DP), traditional opponents of Dr. Obote's party, last night said the

election had not been free and fair and said it rejected the results.

The announcement of election results was stopped by Mr. Paulo Muwanga, chairman of the ruling military commission, on Thursday with a proclamation which he rescinded the following day. Before the proclamation independent observers said the Uganda electoral commission had informed them that the DP had won.

A DP statement alleged widespread irregularities, intimidation of the party's agents and the alteration of election results. It called for fresh elections under an independent commission to be agreed by all political parties.

With some results still to be announced, the UPC had 68 seats, the DP 48 and the Uganda Patriotic Movement one.

In Nairobi, former Uganda justice minister Dan Nabudere and Edward Rugumayo, former chairman of the interim parliament, said the election had been rigged.

Of the delay in announcing the results, they said: "When it appeared that the DP was claiming sweeping victory, the junta issued the proclamation which enabled them to doctor the electoral results, contrary to those which had been declared publicly at each constituency according to the law."

President-elect Obote promised to return to the barracks and to be less lenient with the lawless groups.



A victorious Milton Obote

He spent the day inaugurating the new cabinet.

Speaking briefly, he said rebuilding Uganda the Amin period and morality back to the nation his primary tasks.

Burnham expected to triumph in Guyanese general election

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Dec. 14 (R) — Guyanese are expected to confirm Mr. Forbes Burnham as president when they vote in general elections tomorrow, despite opposition charges of planned vote-rigging and officially-sponsored intimidation.

Mr. Burnham has ruled this sparsely-populated South American nation since independence in 1966, first as prime minister then as president since last October under a new socialist-inspired constitution.

The opposition views the constitution and tomorrow's elections, the first since 1973, as moves by Mr. Burnham and his ruling People's National Congress (PNC) to entrench themselves in power.

Mr. Cheddi Jagan, leader of Guyana's main opposition party, the People's Progressive Party (PPP) has accused the ruling party of using "thugs" to harass his campaigning supporters.

He has also charged that the PNC plans to rig the poll by various

means, including filling in voters lists with names of some of the 900 Americans who died in the Jonestown mass suicide two years ago in northeast Guyana.

The PPP will take part in the poll in which Guyanese will also elect 53 members of the national assembly, but two other opposition groups will boycott it.

One of these is the Working People's Alliance (WPA) whose former leader Walter Rodney, an internationally known Third World spokesman, died in a car bomb explosion last June.

The WPA, the newest opposition party, was created as an independent socialist party with a strong emphasis on human rights.

The two largest parties, the PNC and PPP, both describe themselves as socialist and Marxist. There is no significant right-wing force and the contest will be an all-left affair.

Mr. Burnham draws his support from the country's African minority while Mr. Jagan is backed by the majority of the population of East Indian stock.

Mr. Burnham and Mr. Jagan up the PPP in 1950 to racial harmony in this former British colony with a population of about 800,000.

But the alliance fell apart in 1957 when Mr. Burnham, the PNC, taking with a black population including the miners and the urban class.

Mr. Jagan won election the same year and became minister, but in 1964, before independence, Burnham took power in a coup and has held it ever since.

Berlin decries halts traffic

WEST BERLIN, Dec. 14 — Some 2,000 demonstrators gathered in the centre of West Berlin last night in protest over the 57 youths who built police the night before, pausing.

Windows were broken shops on the Kurfuerstendamm the city's main shopping but the demonstration was peaceful compared to clashes the night before.

A police spokesman said the youths arrested on night had been charged with breach of the peace and were to appear before a magistrate shortly.

Sixty-six policemen and unknown number of demonstrators were injured in the clashes which began after police cleared 100 youths from occupied empty house.

Young people already on empty run-down houses in Berlin, which they say they will save from further decay and demolition.

Third shake-up this year for Salvadorean junta

SAN SALVADOR, Dec. 14 (Agencies) — Mr. Napoleon Duarte, a leading Christian Democrat politician and member of the ruling junta, was yesterday sworn in as El Salvador's president at a ceremony at the presidential palace.

Col. Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, another member of the civilian-military junta which has ruled the Central American nation for the past 14 months, became vice-president.

Left-leaning Col. Arnaldo Majano was given an unspecified diplomatic posting in El Salvador's embassy in Madrid.

The appointment of Mr. Duarte, 58, as president and the ousting of Col. Majano—who until last May was head of the junta—ended a crisis triggered by the murder last week of four American women.

Col. Majano, one of two military officers in the five-man junta, suffered the wrath of his colleagues after he criticised the military establishment accusing it of being infiltrated by the extreme right.

He stepped up his attacks on the government after the murder of the four U.S. missionaries which prompted Washington to suspend aid to El Salvador.

With the departure of Col. Majano, the junta is reduced to four men—Mr. Duarte, Mr. Gutierrez and civilians Ramon Avalos Navarrete and Antonio Morales Ehrlich.

The junta took over from right-wing Gen. Carlos Humberto Romero in October last year with pledges of social justice and peace.

But the situation worsened and human rights groups estimate that 9,000 people have died in a virtual civil war between leftist guerrillas and security forces backed by right-wing death squads since the takeover.

Mr. Duarte, an engineer, appears to be the most prominent and powerful politician in El Salvador. He was elected president in 1972, but ousted by a military coup.

In Washington, the U.S. State Department has said it would continue to withhold economic assistance to El Salvador pending a significant governmental restructuring to "improve the effectiveness of the government in pursuing its reform programme, in controlling violence and in respecting human rights."

Mr. Le Theule, a native of Sabie, was a professor of geography when he was first elected to parliament from the district in 1953 the Gaullist ticket and was vice-president and then president of defence committee of the national assembly (lower house).

His first ministerial post came in 1968 with responsibility for French overseas departments and territories under then-Prime Minister Georges Pompidou. In the subsequent government of Prime Minister Maurice Couve de Murville, he was secretary of state for the region.

He then chaired various parliamentary committees and returned to the cabinet in April, 1978, as transport minister under President Raymond Barre, where his major problem was the seven-week strike of French ports by striking fishermen last summer.

He was named defence minister when Mr. Barre had a reshuffling of his cabinet last October because some ministers were elected to the senate.

Aides in Sabie said Mr. Le Theule had become ill about a year ago following a meeting there with Universities Minister Jean Sauzier-Seite, and as his condition worsened, was taken to the hospital, where he died about 2 a.m.

A spokesman at the Quebec delegation in Paris said this morning that Premier Rene Levesque had cancelled his planned visit to the region on receiving the news of Mr. Le Theule's death.

It was to have been a private visit to the region from which Levesque's family originated.

3-stage plan greeted by widespread opposition scepticism

Marcos' recipe for restoring Filipino democracy

MANILA, (Agencies) — Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, 63, has just unveiled a somewhat surprising three-act scenario to end the country's eight-year-old martial law next March, hold presidential elections later in the year and fully restore democracy in 1984.



President Ferdinand Marcos

But the unveiling has failed to impress a highly sceptical Philippine opposition, with Jaime Cardinal Sin, head of the Catholic hierarchy, dismissing it out of hand and leaders of the Unified Democratic Opposition (UNIDO) so far refusing to accept it.

The volatile cardinal, long a thorn in the side of President Marcos, told the Manila Rotary Club with evident sarcasm that Filipino people could be forgiven when they say that "martial law seems

destined to stay on -- and on and on and on."

And in the UNIDO opposition, Liberal Party President Gerardo Roxas described the presidential elections plan as unworkable. Laban Party President Lorenzo Tanada termed it "useless," and ex-senator Salvador Laurel said it looked like "a political gimmick."

Yet President Marcos, an astute politician, must have guessed beforehand that his plans would hardly arouse opposition enthusiasm. So the big question now is just why he announced it, with such a fanfare.

In the view of some political observers, he wants to ease the political atmosphere to impress the incoming Reagan administration in Washington, and Pope John Paul II who visits here next February.

There are even unconfirmed reports that Mr. Marcos will in fact lift martial law on Feb. 17, the day the pontiff is scheduled to arrive, though many observers suggest that any such move would be more symbolic than real since Mr. Mar-

cos would retain his immense authoritarian powers.

But Mr. Marcos does seem serious about holding presidential elections next year under a possible "transitory" or "emergency" period, and has indicated he would run against the candidate or candidates of UNIDO, possibly including ex-senator Benigno Aquino who is now in the U.S.

At the same time presidential elections would seem an act of political folly in view of the fact that Mr. Marcos and his martial rule are hardly under siege. He continues to enjoy the unqualified support of the 200,000-strong armed forces, and of the country's technocrats.

One explanation is that President Marcos, in proposing such elections, knows that a number of opposition leaders are eager to succeed him, and is out to probe their strengths and weaknesses while seeking to divide them.

This explanation adds that President Marcos will certainly make sure he wins the elections, since he controls the state apparatus while the opposition, unorganised or ill-organised in the countryside, will be overwhelmed.

There are, however, deeper currents propelling President Marcos, reflecting significant changes since he declared martial law on Sept. 21, 1972.

The first is that from a high peak

in 1974-75, the Philippine economy has started to falter.

The successive blows from price rises by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) have all but destroyed the "economic miracle" planned by Mr. Marcos' technocrats.

Industrial planning has also misfired. The Philippines saw itself steadily lose ground in this field to a number of Third World countries in Asia, among them South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia and India.

The second factor is that a once cowed and timid opposition has finally found its voice.

Since last year, when a group of opposition leaders dared to criticise Mr. Marcos in the presence of his wife Imelda, the opposition has gradually lost a flood of angry rhetoric against martial rule.

The opposition's prime booster is Cardinal Sin, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), who last year pledged the church's moral backing for opposition criticism of the government.

The third factor is a shift of emphasis in some American newspapers and research organisations. The Washington Post began this trend several months ago with a withering editorial asking Washington to review its support of Mr. Marcos' martial law regime.

Then on Nov. 27, the Asian Wall Street Journal published a four-column article urging Washington to "prepare to accelerate Marcos' downfall not to impede it, if a stable, allied, democratic state is our policy objective" in the Philippines where America's two largest overseas military bases are located.

And last Thursday, a 14-page World Bank study claimed that President Marcos' authority was becoming increasingly "precarious," and future trends here, unless arrested, would be unfavourable for foreign investors.

A fourth change is the president himself. At age 63, he is no longer the tireless leader of even three years ago. The burdens of 15 years in power show on his sometimes haggard face.

But the political skills are still there. There is the feeling that negotiations with the non-violent opposition will someday be unavoidable, and that new policies will be needed soon if the Philippines is to avoid civil war in the long-run or a military takeover in the medium-run.

How President Marcos deals his political cards in the next two years will determine the future of this country which once was called the "Show-window of Democracy" in Asia.